



## **Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Selectmen**

Date: Monday, January 12, 2014  
Time: 6:00 p.m.  
Place: McCourt Social Hall, Memorial Town Hall, Spencer, MA  
Present: Chairman Pepe, Vice Chair Fritze, Clerk G. Woodbury, Members Stevens & C. Woodbury and Administrator Gaudette.

At 6:05 p.m. Chairman Pepe called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Minutes**

*A motion to approve the meeting minutes of November 12, November 19 (as amended), December 10, & December 17, 2014 (C. Woodbury/G. Woodbury) passed 5/0.*

### **Citizen Input**

None

### **Communications**

None

### **Old Business**

#### **Public Hearing continued: – Request for “No Parking” Designation on north side of Church Street, Monday-Saturday 8 am to 12 noon**

Mr. Gaudette explained the hearing was continued from December 17<sup>th</sup> and is now reconvened. Chairman Pepe reported a site visit took place on Church Street on January 10<sup>th</sup> where an agreement was suggested to paint the area of the curb in front of the church to indicate there is “no parking” and is a “loading zone” only during the hours of 9 am to noon. Selectmen Fritze pointed out curb painting can only be used to indicate no parking at all times; he suggested signage be installed in the area by 221 & 222 Church St.

Selectmen G. Woodbury suggested having the funeral home utilize cones and move the hearse after loading and unloading. He is not in favor of a no parking designation for a private business or church. He is concerned others may look to the Board to resolve their parking issues.

Mr. Fritze would like to utilize signs on a trial basis. It will also address concerns raised by residents during the site visit relative to people attending church services and parking along the street during the service.

Mr. C. Woodbury suggested Mr. Morin place signs at the end of street to inform people a funeral is in progress. Mr. Fritze noted previous attempts to do this have been unsuccessful.

*At 6:27 pm a motion to close the hearing (G. Woodbury/Fritze) passed 5/0.*

*After realizing the hearing was closed prior to allowing public comment, the hearing was reopened immediately. Mr. Al Atchue of Meadow Rd. asked to be heard.*

*At 6:28 pm a motion to reopen the hearing (G. Woodbury/Fritze) passed 5/0.*

Mr. Atchue stated, as he had previously, that the Board should not be making changes to benefit a private business at the expense of residents.

Mr. Pepe suggests delaying a vote at this time and recommends that Morin's use signage in the meantime.

*At 6:37 pm a motion to close the hearing (G. Woodbury/Fritze) passed 5/0.*

A motion by Mr. Stevens to place signs outside as was discussed during the site visit for loading purposes from 9-12, was not seconded, thus no actions were approved.

#### **Action Item: No Parking limits on Adams Street**

Mr. C. Woodbury asked to defer a vote until he can view the flow of traffic in the area. The Board agreed.

#### **Discussion: Follow-up on Clark Street No Parking**

Mr. Gaudette reached out to the owners of 157 Clark St. and was informed if parking were to be prohibited, it would impact them and the neighbors.

The Board will do a site visit on January 18<sup>th</sup> and discussion will take place at the next meeting.

#### **New Business**

##### **Reappoint Beth McPherson as Registrar**

*A motion to reappoint Beth McPherson as Registrar (G. Woodbury/C. Woodbury) passed 5/0.*

##### **Community Comparison Review & Approval**

Administrator Gaudette reviewed the updated annual comparison chart with the additions of Southbridge, Uxbridge, and West Boylston to the list. The Board decided to hold off on the additions at this time and instead keep the original ten communities.

*A motion to adopt the original Community Comparison (C. Woodbury/Stevens) passed 5/0.*

#### **Town Administrator Report**

##### **FY16 Budget Update**

Mr. Gaudette noted departmental budgets will be submitted later in the week.

Governor Baker released Chapter 90 funds. Mr. Pepe asked the Administrator to send a letter to the elected representatives inquiring about the details of the release. Mr. Gaudette suggested this could be discussed with them when they visit on February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

#### **Board Liaison Reports**

Mr. Pepe noted:

- Teacher negotiations are ongoing
- Sugden block RFP will be advertised this week

- The Economic Development Committee will move forward. Two appointees are still needed.

Mr. Fritze mentioned that a water pipe froze at the former Curves space in the Sugden building. Verification is needed to ensure gas/electric meter has been switched over to the Town.

### **Citizen input**

None

### **Board Member and Staff Comments**

Mr. Pepe asked Mr. Gaudette for list of incentives to offer businesses as part of the downtown study. Mr. Gaudette said this information will be included in the final report after the study is complete.

Mr. Stevens will attend a CMRPC meeting on Economic Development.

Mr. Pepe noted the Veterans Memorial Committee will kick off next week.

Mr. Gaudette noted the lack of press presence from the Spencer New Leader is due to restructuring. News and information can be emailed to them for publication in the newspaper.

### **Request for Executive Session under Mass General Laws, Chapter 30A, §21(a), ¶6, for the purposes of considering the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real estate, as the chair has decided that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body**

*At 7:15 p.m. a motion to meet in Executive Session in accordance with MGL Chapter 30A, § 21 (a), ¶ 6, for the purposes of considering the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real estate, as the chair has decided that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body (Stevens/G. Woodbury) passed with a roll call vote: G. Woodbury-yes, C. Woodbury -yes, Fritze-yes, Stevens-yes, Pepe-yes.*

Mr. Pepe noted the meeting will reconvene only to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 pm. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Savoie  
Administrative Assistant

Referenced Materials  
Community Comparison Sheet